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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/651,840 Confirmation No. : 8172
Applicant(s) : Richard G. Cartledge, et al.
Filed : August 29, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3731
Examiner : Natalie R. Pous
Title : IMPLANTABLE DEVICES FOR CONTROLLING THE
INTERNAL CIRCUMFERENCE OF AN ANATOMIC ORIFICE
OR LUMEN

Docket No. : 28099-0006
Customer No. : 24633

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, which the Examiner may deem relevant to the patentability of the above-identified application.

The USPTO has waived the requirements under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(I) to submit copies of U.S. patent and U.S. patent applications, publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statement in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003, and International Application that have entered the National Stage under 37 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to PRE-OG Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Admin dated July 25, 2003, stating an Information Disclosure Statements may be filed without copies of U.S. patents and published applications for patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.

This information disclosure statement is being filed within one of the following time periods: within three months of the filing date of this application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of this international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued

examination under §1.114. Therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO-1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as "prior art" against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

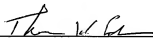
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1349. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 27, 2007

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 28099-0006		APPLICATION NO. 10/651,840	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)					
APPLICANTS Richard G. Cartledge, et al.					
FILING DATE August 29, 2003				GROUP 3731	

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APR 27 2007

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	B1	4,676,253	06/30/1987	Newman et al.			
	B2	5,119,674	06/09/1992	Nielsen			
	B3	5,243,976	09/14/1993	Ferek-Petric et al.			
	B4	5,443,477	08/22/1995	Marin et al.			
	B5	6,067,991	05/30/2000	Forsell			
	B6	6,110,200	08/29/2000	Hinnenkamp			
	B7	6,402,781 B1	06/11/2002	Langberg et al.			
	B8	6,406,493 B1	06/18/2002	Tu et al.			
	B9	6,470,892 B1	10/29/2002	Forsell			
		2004/013314 A1	07/08/2004	Woo			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLISHED DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							Yes	No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), Title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	